

Around the Services

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Department of Defense

The U.S. government and South Korea have completed negotiations to revise the Status of Forces Agreement to improve cooperation and maintain a stable environment for U.S. troops stationed in the Asian nation. The agreement covers a broad range of issues, including criminal jurisdiction, labor agreements, environment and civil proceedings.

The Department of Defense has announced it will award \$8.6 million in fiscal 2001 funds to support research into technologies to advance the development of high-energy-laser weapons.

Coast Guard

Maritime seizures in support of the national drug control strategy netted a record amount of cocaine in FY 2000. Through Sept. 28, 2000, the Coast Guard had seized 125,904 pounds of cocaine, compared to 111,689 pounds for FY 1999.

Marines

The Army's Central Identification Laboratory, Hawaii, has identified the remains of 19 Marine raiders who died in the 1942 raid on Makin Atoll during World War II. The recovery of these 19 of 30 marines missing in action after the raid followed CILHI's 1999 discovery of a mass grave on the atoll.



Air Force

The successful first flight of Raptor 4005 from the Lockheed Martin facility in Marietta, Ga., achieves an important milestone in the Air Force's F-22 program. The flight, incorporating software components that provide key combat capabilities, was one of three remaining tasks required before a decision to start F-22 low-rate initial production.

Navy

After receiving a patch to cover the hole caused by a terrorist attack in Aden, Yemen, Oct. 12, USS *Cole* was placed back into the water at Litton Ingalls Shipbuilding in Pascagoula, Miss., where it is undergoing extensive repairs.

